



Path to an Emmanuel College Undergraduate Degree Unforgettable for Owner of Insurance Company

Before Daniel Rizzo decided to enroll in Emmanuel College's Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA), some would say he had enough on his résumé to prove he had found success without a college education. The co-founder of Rizzo Insurance Group, he and his wife Jane had two growing boys and his political interests had begun to take flight with his position as an at-large city councilor in Revere.

But for Rizzo, the desire to earn his degree remained ever-present.

"One of the voids I always felt I missed out on was getting the formal education side of things, as part of my personal portfolio," he said. "Even though I had experienced moderate success in my business life, started a family with my wife and two children, something was always missing and after a while it started to eat away at me."

When he decided to do something about filling that empty space a few years back, it didn't take him long to see that the Emmanuel College BSBA was the right path to take.

"Emmanuel's a very well-respected school and that was important to me," he said. "It's a school I thought I'd be proud to graduate from."

One of the most unforgettable memories Rizzo has of his time as an Emmanuel student was a comment one of his first professors made to his class on the first day. Addressing the students for the very first time, Rizzo remembers the professor making a point of telling the class his course would not be easy, a simple and honest statement that Rizzo has never forgotten. "Unfortunately, over the years there have been a number of programs that while being accredited, have developed reputations for delivering a substandard educational experience in exchange for a quick graduation date," he said. "That professor was insinuating that Emmanuel was not just printing diplomas. That really resonated through me."

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Our Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) courses are designed to fit professionals' hectic schedules. Emmanuel's BSBA for working adults has earned a strong reputation for excellence among students and businesses as a program that delivers a high-quality curriculum in a flexible, accelerated format.

- ▶ Earn your degree in as little as two years
- ▶ Attend small student-centered classes one night a week with expert faculty
- ▶ Accelerated sessions to meet busy schedules
- ▶ Apply business concepts to the real-world issues dynamic professionals face on the job
- ▶ Career services and networking events
- ▶ Convenient campus locations

Learn More

For additional information on any of our Graduate and Professional Programs, contact us at 617-735-9700 or go to www.emmanuel.edu and click on "Graduate & Professional Programs."

Special opportunities with pricing, services and workplace training grants are available to employers! Call to see if a tuition reduction applies to your employer.

While Rizzo admits the program's workload did prove more demanding than he anticipated, he called upon previous personal experiences to help him through challenging situations. As a young man, he spent six years in the United

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States Navy aboard the aircraft carrier the USS Independence. Although there were times in which the decision to enlist weighed heavily upon his mind, Rizzo recalls a point in which he says “things just clicked,” and he became determined to see his efforts through to the end. Utilizing this approach again, this time to help him through the rigors of a college education, just seemed like a natural fit.

“I told myself if I’m going to do this, I’m going to finish it,” he said. “And that’s the attitude I had to keep. It turned out to be a real learning experience for me.”

Expecting himself to be at a slight disadvantage considering the number of years it had been since he’d last been in a classroom, Rizzo was pleasantly surprised at how much more useful the coursework throughout the Emmanuel program was to him as an already experienced professional.

“In all reality, the classes were better to take at that stage of my life and career, then if I had taken them right out of high school,” he said. “I had a real sense of how it all affected people in the real world, not just strictly in an academic book sense.

“For example, classes such as Accounting, Business Law, Micro/Macro Economics and Marketing helped answer the how and whys of reports that I had been reading in my business for years, but wasn’t really sure how all the numbers go to where they did,” he added. “My accountant had always prepared our income statement and balance sheets, so I had always taken a bottom-line approach. To learn how to prepare this report myself really brought much more clarity to the process. It was really something that helped me in my business life.”

While the sacrifice was great for both Rizzo and his family during those years, the payback of bringing them to his graduation ceremony was that much greater. His diploma hangs proudly in his office, offering a constant reminder of just how far he’s come.

“I think the Emmanuel College BSBA provided me with everything that I would have learned had I been a traditional student,” he said.

